

The United States PEPFAR small grants program

SOLICITATION NOTICE AND GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Background: The US PEPFAR Small Grants Program (PSGP) is a program funded by the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). PEPFAR is the US government's assistance program which is supporting the Malawi Government and the national response to combating HIV and AIDS. As part of this national response, the PSGP is seeking to support small, grassroots, community-run projects throughout Malawi.

In 2015, PSGP will fund projects that provide assistance to organizations that work with People with Disabilities (PWD's) and HIV/AIDS. Please take note that organizations working with People with Disabilities including those with **Albinism** are encouraged to apply. In 2015, the Embassy is committed to ensuring that grantees receiving PEPFAR funds implement their programs in a way that supports promotion, protection, and respect for human rights. The projects should (1) Guarantee disabled people's equitable access to HIV prevention, treatment and care services; (2) Increase disabled people's access to and control of strategic and protective health, social and economic assets which assist in preventing and mitigating the effect of HIV/AIDS; and (3) Address social, cultural and legal barriers that result in hostile environments creating barriers to equal access to health services for people with disabilities living with and affected by HIV

Malawi has approximately 500,000 People with Disabilities including people with albinism. Malawi currently has policies and legal frameworks for promoting and upholding rights of the PWD's with its Constitution, Handicapped Persons' Act (1971), National Policy on the Equalization of Persons with Disabilities (2006), National Special Needs Education Policy and Disability Bill (2012).

PWDs are as likely as their non-disabled peers to be sexually active, yet disability stereotyping, stigma, and inaccessibility of facilities and information can leave disabled people excluded from HIV and health services. 2015 has seen extension of stigma to brutal killings and abductions of people with albinism. This has greatly affected access to health services. Inaccessibility of HIV/AIDS related facilities and information, and lack of education can leave disabled people unaware of even basic HIV prevention or treatment information. Unemployment, lack of assistive devices and useful vocational skills, and dependency from their care givers leave PWDs in poverty and lack of resources to seek for HIV and health services. Commonly held, and incorrect, beliefs that disabled people are not sexually active may lead some health care providers to turn disabled people away even when they do seek testing, information or treatment. An additional risk is the emerging and incorrect, beliefs that people with albinism are a source enrichments have led to increase murders and abductions thereby creating fear and alienation from the rest of the society leaving people with albinism without appropriate information regarding prevention or treatment, or even the ability to communicate with healthcare professionals and HIV/AIDS outreach workers because they are forced to be confined to their homes.

Initial studies of disability and HIV/AIDS indicate that above mentioned and other risk factors leave disabled people at high risk of HIV infection, often at rates higher than those found in the wider population. At the same time, marginalization and stigma associated with disability and HIV can also discourage people from self-identifying and seeking for support.

Examples of types of projects that will be funded by ASGF:

- Community-based interventions to eradicate discrimination and exploitation of people with albinism, including women and girls, by sex trafficking, rape, murder, abductions, and sexual abuse;
- Building capacity of health workers/health care service providers with skills to understand and provide accessible services to the special needs of PWD's;
- Livelihood and economic empowerment programs appropriate to the needs of disabled people, including women and girls with disabilities, and parents and caregivers of children with disabilities;
- Improving accessibility of health facilities;
- Development of HIV and health educational materials and information in accessible formats (e.g., braille, plain language, captioning of videos, use of sign language interpreters, etc);
- Production and distribution of assistive devices that will help PWDs including those albinism have increased access to health services
- HIV education among PWDs through targeted and accessible intervention and messages;
- Accessible HIV testing and counseling;
- To support equal education for disabled people in mainstream school settings and ensure that school environments are safe and accessible to disabled students;
- Targeted and accessible interventions to empower disabled people, especially youth with disabilities and women and girls with disabilities, to have the knowledge and self-confidence to negotiate safer sex with sex partners;
- Studies on the specific needs, prevalence of HIV among PWD, and their access to health services.
- Integration or mainstreaming the needs of PWDs into existing PEPFAR and Ministry of Health programs.

Grant amount: Grants up to MWK 4,400,000 (~US \$10,000)

What the Money cannot be used for

- Staff salaries
- Purchase of vehicles or major equipment

Project Evaluation Criteria:

- The grant must be used to start or expand community-initiated projects that address needs of PWDs and HIV pandemic and should benefit the greatest number of people possible.
- Grants will be given for one year only. Projects must be completed within this one year period.
- The organization should be established, registered grassroots community-based organizations (CBOs) or NGO with a permanent address.
- Presence of a capable Malawian project manager who is a long-term resident in the community.
- The organization should have capacity to implement the project, deliver the intended results, report technical and financial progress of the project, and monitor and record the outcome indicators and proposed impact to the community.
- The organization should have proven experience and accomplishments in tackling needs of PWD's or HIV pandemic.
- The organizations committing their own resources in cash or in kind will be viewed more favorably.
- Pre-established long-term goals and a coherent plan to keep the project running in the future
- Coordination and communication amongst the grant-recipient group, local leaders, and local government representatives.

Required documents for application:

- Completed Grant Application Form
- A copy of registration certificate of the organization

Deadline: April 30, 2015. Applications received after this date will not be considered.

How to apply:

The Grant Application Form can be downloaded from U.S Embassy website at U.S Embassy website at <http://lilongwe.usembassy.gov/about-us/pepfar.html>. Hard copies of the Application form can be collected at US Embassy Offices, City Center during working hours. Application forms are also available upon request to LilongweSHF@state.gov

The completed Grant Application Form together with supporting materials should be sent to PEPFAR office via U.S. Embassy by standard mail or e-mail. Hand-delivered applications should go to PEPFAR office through Self-Help Office, US Embassy, City Center.

Mail: US Embassy, PEPFAR Office, PO Box 30016, Lilongwe 3.

Email: LilongweSHF@state.gov In Subject line insert: PEPFAR Small grants.

Hand-Delivery: PEPFAR office through Self-Help Office, US Embassy, City Center.

Due to large number of applications we receive, only shortlisted applicants will be contacted. Shortlisted applicants will be informed by May 18, 2015 and will be invited to submit a full proposal. Applicants who are not contacted by May 18, 2018, should consider their application unsuccessful.

GRANT APPLICATION FORM FOR PEPFAR SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM FOR HIV/AIDS

All applicants who would like to be considered for funding must submit applications no later than **April 30, 2015**.

Date submitted: _____

1. Name of Organization/Group _____

2. Name of Project _____

3. Address of Organization: (please provide exact physical location and P.O Box) _____

4. Type of the Organization/Group _____ Informal group / CBO / Local NGO / NGO / INGO / FBO

5. Registration Verification:

Year in which your organization established _____ Date of NGO/CBO registration _____

Place of registration (e.g. district or national) _____

(Please attach **a copy** of your organization's registration certificate)

6. Sponsoring Organization of Agency (if any) _____

7. Has your organization ever received **funding from the U.S. Government**? Yes / No _____
(If yes, please provide details)

8. Project Manager:

Name _____ Title _____

Address _____

Phone number _____ E-mail if available _____

9. Trustee (Chief from village or TA or Government staff who could provide reference about the organization)

Name: _____ Title: _____

Address _____

Phone number _____ E-mail if available _____

10. Organizational experiences: Please provide brief description of your organization's experiences in working with PWDs and/or HIV.

12. Project impact area (this is where your project will be implemented?)

Region _____ District _____ T.A _____

14. How much contribution is committed from the organization or the community? _____ MKW

16. Problem statement: Very briefly describe the problem your community/target group is facing that compels you to seek support.

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18. Project Objectives: List two or three objectives you intend to achieve in this project?

[illegible]

19. **Project activities:** List the activities you plan to implement to achieve your intended results for this Project.

[illegible]

19. In order for your application to be considered, the head of the organization must sign below.

Full name _____ Signature _____

Title _____ **Date** _____

